

171st Session of the Council

Item 12: Progress Report on Rome-based Agencies collaboration

The Secretariat expresses its appreciation of the comments from Members on Item 12, *Progress Report on Rome-based Agencies collaboration*. The Secretariat takes note of all comments and suggestions and is pleased to acknowledge Members' recognition of the importance of Rome-based Agency (RBA) collaboration to address the many challenges posed to global food security and nutrition. As stated in the Report, the three Agencies have enhanced collaboration at the global, regional and country levels, building on the results of the Joint Evaluation on RBA Collaboration carried out in 2021, considering its relevance within the context of the UN development system (UNDS) repositioning. The RBAs recognize the importance of building synergies and complementarities in order to reduce overlap, competition and duplication of work, particularly at the country level. The three Agencies have successfully redirected their humanitarian and development efforts to effectively respond to the global food crisis, demonstrating flexibility and adaptation to emerging priorities. At the global level, the RBAs further strengthened their coordination across high-level global fora, including the United Nations General Assembly, the Global Crisis Response Group, the G7, the G20 and other joint initiatives.

The RBAs continue to work very closely together in the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) follow-up process. In this context, the new Scientific Advisory Group of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub includes eight members from the High-Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) to ensure proper links with the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and its products, and the development of complementarities on the UNFSS follow up.

The Secretariat appreciates Members' interest in the collaboration between FAO and IFAD through the FAO Investment Centre. A notable increase in such collaboration has occurred over the last decade compared to the past period, both in terms of number of projects and amount of investments in USD, as highlighted in the table below.

Period of Investment Centre support	Number of IFAD financed projects	Total investment (USD million)
1979	5	269.90
1980-1989	85	2,085.58
1990-1999	90	2,293.40
2000-2009	84	2,630.71
2010-2019	114	7,572.89
2020	8	616.03
2021	10	605.75
TOTAL	396	16,074.26

With respect to Green Climate Fund (GCF) collaboration, the FAO Investment Centre supported IFAD with the design of two GCF approved proposals worth over USD 222 million and is poised

to further increase the volume of the GCF collaboration with IFAD to over USD 805 million, with four additional projects and one programme on Net Zero Dairy in East Africa involving the Global Dairy Platform. Additional initiatives are currently being explored including a global programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Of particular note, FAO and IFAD are prioritizing climate change as part of their joint strategic dialogue to enhance investment collaboration for 2023 and beyond.

The Secretariat welcomes Members' request for analysis of the challenges of RBA collaboration and looks forward to providing further details on this matter in the next Progress Report on RBA collaboration.

The Secretariat takes note of Members' request to strengthen collaboration around the humanitarian development peace nexus and to jointly seek funding and resources for the successful transformation of agrifood systems.

Regarding the Joint Evaluation on RBA collaboration, the Secretariat notes that all actions to respond to the recommendations are on track and due to be completed according to the agreed schedule.

With regard to the queries on the Food and Agriculture Resilience Mission (FARM) and Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS), FAO, within its mandate, provides data and expertise to various global initiatives. Accordingly, in FARM, it has provided data which is already publicly available, at the request of its RBA partners, and it is not directly providing staff support or other resources. FAO's contribution comes via the Pillar of Transparency under which the intent is to continue to strengthen the support provided by the Agriculture Market Information System (AMIS), which is a G20 initiative hosted at FAO.

Regarding the GAFS initiative, the World Bank has been given the task to develop a dashboard on food security. The World Bank is using FAO data and Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) data, both of which are publicly available. FAO's role has been to offer some modest technical support to the World Bank specifically connected to the use of FAO data.